AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A message reception device comprising:

a portable message reception means for receiving a message through a network;

message filter means for screening messages ~~with~~ for a valid range including a valid geographic position range, from said received messages, to identify a message with a valid geographic position range;

positioning means for measuring ~~its own~~ a current geographic position of the message reception means;

message delivery assessment means for ~~selecting~~ assessing whether the current geographic position is within the geographic position range of the identified message ~~with a valid range in which the measured current position is within the valid range~~; and

message delivery means for delivering the identified message, ~~with a valid range~~ received by said message reception means or selected by said message delivery assessment means, to a user,

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wherein, upon the current geographic position being determined to be within the geographic position range, the identified message is delivered to the user.

2. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 1, ~~wherein~~

further comprising message storage means for storing the identified message ~~with a valid range~~, and

wherein the valid geographic position range comprises a fixed geographic position and a distance from the fixed geographic position.

3. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the screening of the messages ~~with~~ for a valid range by said message filter means is targeted to ~~the message~~ messages satisfying a predetermined condition.

4. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 3, wherein the predetermined condition, for screening the messages ~~with~~ for a valid range by said message filter means, is a sender of the message with a valid range, the valid range being a message sender who is expected and who is not unwanted by the user.

5. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 2, wherein

said message storage means comprises clock means, said

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clock means sets a time limit of validity to the identified message ~~with a valid range~~, said clock means stores the [[a]] time limit of validity, and said clock means deletes the identified message ~~with a valid range whose~~ when the time limit of validity has been exceeded.

6. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim [[1]] 5, wherein the time limit of validity ~~of the message with a valid range~~ is after a given time period from the time when the identified message ~~with a valid range~~ is stored.

7. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim [[1]] 5, wherein the time limit of validity ~~of the message with a valid range~~ is ~~the limit~~ indicated in ~~the limit of~~ a validity information ~~added to~~ found within the identified message ~~with a valid range~~.

8. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 1, wherein the assessment within the valid geographic position range by said message delivery assessment means is performed to determine whether the measured ~~own~~ current geographic position is within a predetermined radius centered on a center position of the valid geographic position range and the current geographic position is determined by a Global Positioning System.

9. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 2, wherein, when receiving the identified message, said message filter means i) delivers the message by said message delivery means ~~when receiving the message~~ to the user, and ii) stores, in said message storage means, the identified message with a valid range if a content of the valid range is a content specified by the user ~~in said message storage means~~.

10. (currently amended) A message reception device as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said message delivery means

i) assesses whether a pointer information, pointing to external information, is included in the identified message ~~with a valid range~~,

ii) upon determining the identified message includes the pointer information, obtains the information, pointed to by the pointer information, from the network ~~when the pointer information is included~~, and

iii) delivers the obtained information to the user.

11. (original) A message reception device as set forth in claim 1, wherein

said message delivery means is a device separated from a main body of the message reception device.

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12. (currently amended) A message reception method comprising the steps of:

at a portable reception device, receiving ~~a message~~ messages through a network;

screening the received messages to identify messages with a valid range including a valid geographic position range ~~from the received messages~~ and storing the ~~message with a valid range~~ identified messages including the corresponding valid geographic position ranges;

measuring ~~its own~~ a current geographic position of the portable reception device;

selecting, from the stored identified messages, a message with a valid geographic position range for which the measured current geographic position is within the valid geographic position range ~~from the stored messages with a valid range~~; and

delivering the selected message ~~with a valid range~~ to a user,

wherein, upon the current geographic position being determined to be within one of the stored valid geographic position ranges, the corresponding one of the stored messages is delivered to the user.

13. (currently amended) A message reception method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the screening of the messages with

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a valid range is targeted to ~~the message~~ messages satisfying a predetermined condition.

14. (currently amended) A message reception method as set forth in claim 13, wherein the predetermined condition for screening ~~the messages with a valid range~~ is a sender of the message ~~with~~ being included in a valid sender range.

15. (currently amended) A message reception method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the message with a valid range is stored by setting a time limit of validity to the message with a valid range, and the message with a valid range whose time limit of validity has been exceeded is deleted.

16. (currently amended) A message reception method as set forth in claim [[12]] 15, wherein the time limit of validity of the message with a valid range is after a given time period from the time when the message with a valid range is stored.

17. (currently amended) A message reception method as set forth in claim [[12]] 16, wherein the time limit of validity of the message with a valid range is the time limit indicated in ~~the~~ a limit of validity information ~~added to~~ included within the message with a valid range.

18. (currently amended) A message reception method as set forth in claim 12, wherein the assessment within the valid range is made whether the measured ~~own~~ current geographic

position is within a predetermined radius centered on a center

position of the valid <u>geographic position</u> range.

19. (currently amended) A message reception method as

set forth in claim 12, wherein the message received from said

network is delivered to a user when the message is received, and

the message ~~with~~ <u>is stored if the message includes a content</u>

<u>within</u> a valid range specified by the user ~~is stored~~.

20. (currently amended) A message reception method as

set forth in claim 12, wherein delivery of the message with a

valid range to a user is performed by obtaining <u>from the network</u>

<u>external</u> information pointed to by a pointer information when the

pointer information is included in the message with a valid

range, and delivering the obtained information to the user.

21. (currently amended) A program for receiving

messages which controls a computer to perform message reception

processing, comprising the functions of:

<u>at a portable reception device,</u> a function of receiving

a message through a network;

a function of screening <u>received</u> messages <u>to identify</u>

<u>messages</u> with a valid range including a valid <u>geographic position</u>

range ~~from the received messages~~; and

a function of storing ~~a screened~~ <u>an identified</u> message

with a valid <u>geographic position</u> range in a message storage unit,

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and delivering a message which was not ~~screened~~ <u>identified to</u> <u>include a valid geographic position range</u> to a user.

22. (currently amended) A program for receiving messages which controls a computer to perform message reception processing, comprising the functions of:

a function of measuring ~~its own~~ <u>a</u> current <u>geographic</u> position <u>of the computer</u>;

a function of selecting<u>, from plural messages with</u> <u>corresponding valid geographic position ranges,</u> a <u>selected</u> message ~~with~~ <u>based on the selected message having</u> a valid <u>geographic position</u> range for which the measured current <u>geographic</u> position is ~~in its valid range from the messages with~~ ~~a valid range~~ <u>found to be within</u>; and

a function of delivering the selected message ~~with a~~ ~~valid range~~ to a user.

23. (currently amended) A program for receiving messages which controls a computer to perform message reception processing, comprising the functions of:

a function of receiving ~~a message~~ <u>messages</u> through a network;

a function of screening messages with a valid range including a valid <u>geographic position</u> range from the received messages;

a function of storing the screened ~~message~~ messages with a valid range in a message storage unit, and delivering a message which was not screened <u>and does not include a valid range</u> to a user;

a function of measuring ~~its own~~ <u>a</u> current <u>geographic</u> position <u>of the computer</u>;

a function of selecting<u>, from</u> the stored <u>messages, a</u> message with a valid range for which the measured current <u>geographic</u> position is ~~in its~~ <u>within the</u> valid <u>geographic position</u> range <u>of the message</u>; and

a function of delivering the selected message ~~with a valid range~~ to a user.